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TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Examiner J. LEE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: JAMES A. LARSON

OUR REF: 3616.177USI2  
TELEPHONE: 612.336.4708

Total pages, including cover letter: 11

PTO FAX NUMBER 1-703-872-9306

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Title of Document Transmitted:

Request for Continued Examination,  
Supplemental Information Disclosure  
Statement, Form 1449, 1 Reference

Applicant: SCHERER ET AL.  
Serial No.: 09/884,795  
Filed: JUNE 19, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 3673  
Our Ref. No.: 3616.177USI2  
Confirmation No. 4387

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-2725 in the amount of \$770.00 for Request for Continued Examination. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: James A. Larson  
Name: James A. Larson  
Reg. No.: 40,443

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Tracey Dine-Vicernach  
Tracey Dine-Vicernach  
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June 3, 2004  
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S/N 09/884,795

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SCHERER ET AL. Examiner: J. LEE  
Serial No.: 09/884,795 Group Art Unit: 3673  
Filed: JUNE 19, 2001 Docket No.: 3616.177USI2  
Title: BLOCK SPLITTING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD

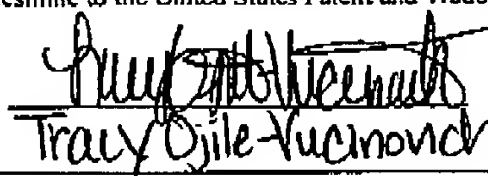
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

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Tracy Ojile-VucanovichREQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

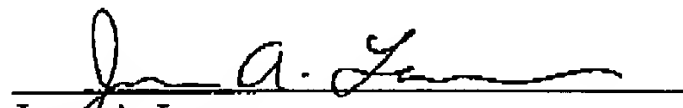
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Dear Sir:

Under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, it is respectfully requested that this application be accorded the benefits of Continued Examination.

Please charge our Deposit Account in the amount of \$770.00 to cover the required fee for a large entity.

Respectfully submitted,  
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
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Date: June 3, 2004  
James A. Larson  
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